

- E4
34. (Twice Amended) A method of treating a tumor necrosis factor-related disease in a subject in need thereof comprising administering to the subject a tumor necrosis factor-inhibiting amount of a receptor molecule encoded by the DNA of Claim 28.
35. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 34, wherein the tumor necrosis factor-related disease is selected from the group consisting of: an autoimmune disease, an inflammatory bowel disease, a bacterial infection, a viral infection, a parasitic infection, a malignancy, and a neurodegenerative disease.
36. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 35, wherein the tumor necrosis factor-related disease is selected from the group consisting of: rheumatoid arthritis, septic shock, cerebral malaria, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection, host versus graft disease, neoplastic pathology and endotoxemic response.
37. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 34, wherein the tumor necrosis factor-related disease is rheumatoid arthritis.
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REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 14-17 and 19-37 are pending and under examination. Applicants have amended claims 20-23, 27 and 34-37 in order to introduce certain format changes. Applicants maintain that these amendments raise no issue of new matter, and respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-3, 6, 8, 14-17 and

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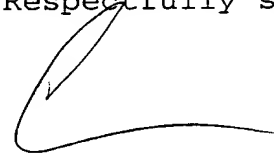
19-37 will still be pending and under examination.

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)(2), applicants annex hereto as Exhibit A claims 20-23, 27 and 34-37 marked up to show the changes made herein relative to the previous version of those claims.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

No fee, other than the enclosed \$2720.00, which includes the \$1970.00 extension fee and the \$750.00 RCE filing fee, is deemed necessary. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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Please amend claims 20-23; 27 and 34-37 as follows:

20. (Thrice amended) A method of treating a tumor necrosis factor\_related disease in a subject in need thereof comprising administering to the subject a TNF-inhibiting amount of a receptor molecule according to Claim 1.
21. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 20, wherein the tumor necrosis factor\_related disease is selected from the group consisting of: an autoimmune disease, an inflammatory bowel disease, a bacterial infection, a viral infection, a parasitic infection, a malignancy, and a neurodegenerative disease.
22. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein the [TNF] tumor necrosis factor-related disease is selected from the group consisting of: rheumatoid arthritis, septic shock, cerebral malaria, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection, host versus graft disease, neoplastic pathology and endotoxemic response.
23. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 20, wherein the tumor necrosis factor\_related disease is rheumatoid arthritis.
27. (Twice Amended) The receptor molecule of Claim 1, wherein the tumor necrosis factor receptors are of human origin and the [polylinker] polypeptide linker is a polyglycine linker sequence.
34. (Twice Amended) A method of treating a tumor necrosis factor\_related disease in a subject in need thereof comprising administering to the subject a [TNF] tumor necrosis factor-

inhibiting amount of a receptor molecule encoded by the DNA of Claim 28.

35. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 34, wherein the tumor necrosis factor-related disease is selected from the group consisting of: an autoimmune disease, an inflammatory bowel disease, a bacterial infection, a viral infection, a parasitic infection, a malignancy, and a neurodegenerative disease.
36. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 35, wherein the [TNF] tumor necrosis factor-related disease is selected from the group consisting of: rheumatoid arthritis, septic shock, cerebral malaria, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection, host versus graft disease, neoplastic pathology and endotoxemic response.
37. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 34, wherein the tumor necrosis factor-related disease is rheumatoid arthritis.